JUL 0 5 2006

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| Application of: |) |
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Examiner: M. Botts

HIROSHI TANIOKA

Group Art Unit: 2176

Application No.: 10/697,983)

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Filed: October 31, 2003

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For: IMAGE PROCESSING

APPARATUS, IMAGE :

PROCESSING METHOD AND

STORAGE MEDIUM : June 28, 2006

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of each document so listed, together with its English-language abstract, is enclosed.

JP 4-084380 JP 5-119761 JP 58-022486

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

June 28, 2006
(Date of Deposit)

Frank L. Cire, Reg. No. 42,419 (Name of Attorney for Applicant)

June 28, 2006

Date of Signature

The subject application has received an Office Action on the merits but has not yet received either a final action or a Notice Of Allowance. Accordingly, this Information Disclosure Statement is accompanied by the requisite \$180.00 fee. The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing and returning a copy of the attached Form PTO-1449.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank L. Cire

Attorney for Applicant Registration No. 42,419

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO 30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

CA_MAIN 114578v1

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| FORM PTO 1449 (modifi | ied) | O1 408 | ATTY DOCKET NO. | APPLICATION NO. | .277 | | | |
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| U.S. [| DEPARTMENT OF COMMERC | E 11 0 5 2006 | 1 | | 10/697,983 | | | |
| U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE JUL 5 2006 PAPPLICANT LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPRECANT(S) HORISTO Tanioka | | | | | | | | |
| LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) | | FILING DATE GROUP | | | | | | |
| | | | October 31, 2003 | | 2 | 2176 | | |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | |
| *EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE | | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | |
| | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT | | |
| | 58-022486 | 2/83 | Japan | | | Abstract | | |
| | 5-119761 | 5/93 | Japan | <u>. </u> | | Abstract | | |
| | 4-084380 | 3/92 | Japan | | | Abstract | | |
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| OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | | | | | | | |
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| EXAMINER DATE CONSIDERED | | | | | | | | |

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.